

IN SPORTS: UCONN'S DIANA TAURASI NAMED NAISMITH PLAYER OF THE YEAR

The Day

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AMERICA AT WAR

U.S. FORCES REGROUP REPUBLICAN GUARD IS FOCUS OF ATTACK



■ Soldiers of the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, Ga., surround a man who was stopped for suspicious activity Monday at an undisclosed location in southern Iraq. An AK-47 automatic rifle and ammunition were found in the man's vehicle.

DAVID LESSON / Dallas Morning News-KRT

Iraqi resistance remains strong in some pockets

By PATRICK E. TYLER
New York Times News Service

Kuwait — Having swept more than 300 miles over sand and mud in southern Iraq, an American Army gathered itself south of Baghdad Monday, flinging artillery fire and attack helicopters against the Republican Guard, the outer ring of Saddam Hussein's defenses of Baghdad.

But small-arms fire described as a "hornet's nest" drove back the airborne force of 30 to 40 Apache helicopters seeking Iraqi tanks, downing one of the aircraft in a farmer's field.

Its two crewmen, identified by the Pentagon as Chief Warrant Officer Ronald D. Young Jr., 26, of Georgia, and Chief Warrant Officer David S. Williams, 30, of Florida, were listed as missing in action.

Iraqi state television said the two men had been captured and ran video of them, wearing khaki overalls. The two men remained silent.

Nearly all the gunships sustained damage, and military commanders said they were disappointed in their initial failure to destroy the entrenched Iraqi forces from the air.

In a day of regrouping and a possible shift in strategy to take on the Medina Division's armor from safer altitudes, allied forces on Monday night unleashed a heavy aerial bombardment on targets south of Baghdad.

Saddam appeared on state television Monday and, in a defiant and angry speech, exhorted his Baath Party loyalists, his security forces and the fanatical irregular forces known as fedayeen to "hit your enemy with all your strength."

See SADDAM page A3

For Providence Crew, A Fourth Day Of Missile Strikes

DISPATCHES AT SEA

EDITOR'S NOTE: Day reporter Robert A. Hamilton and photographer Tim Cook are aboard a Navy submarine covering the war.

Battle stations now becoming routine aboard nuclear sub

By ROBERT A. HAMILTON
Day Staff Writer

Aboard the USS Providence
AN EARLY SUNDAY-MORNING missile strike from the Red Sea into Iraq started the fourth day

of combat for the USS Providence, as the crew started growing accustomed to the call for battle stations at any hour.

Lt. j.g. Will Wiley had just sat down to "midrats" — or midnight rations, served for anyone who draws overnight duty — and was easing a slice of 10-toppings pizza toward his mouth when the loudspeaker in the wardroom blared to life.

Chomping down quickly, Wiley headed for the control center with a

single bite as the rest of the crewmen scrambled to their posts.

In less than a half-minute, Wiley was in his seat in control, gazing at an array of tactical screens on which he would monitor the launch. The captain and executive officer were standing behind him.

There was a lot of chatter in the crew's mess. A few of the crew looked as if they were ready to fall asleep — in marked contrast to Thursday night, when the men had waited intently for

the opening shot.

"The first one, there was a lot of thrill seeing the tasking done correctly, and we still have a lot of people who are pretty excited," said Chief Electronics Technician Bruce Rook.

At this point some of the men, who made the 2001 strike against Afghanistan, had dozens of missile launchers under their belts, which might make a little difference, Rook said Monday.

See PROVIDENCE page A5

Bush will propose \$75B for war and anti-terror efforts

By ALAN FRAM
Associated Press Writer

Washington — President Bush is expected to ask Congress for \$74.7 billion to pay for the war with Iraq, assuming a month of combat, and for strengthening counterterrorism efforts at home, lawmakers and aides said Monday.

The money measure, which the president planned to describe to congressional leaders he invited to the White House, was dominated by \$62.6 billion for the Department of Defense. It presumed the military effort to oust Iraqi President Saddam Hussein would take 30 days, aides said.

The request was also expected to include \$4.2 billion for domestic security, chiefly for police and other so-called first responders. And it was to contain \$7.8 billion for aid to Israel, Afghanistan and other U.S. allies, a down payment on humanitarian aid for Iraq and for rebuilding the country, and money to increase security for American diplomats.

At Monday's meeting, Bush was expected to ask congressional leaders to send him a completed version of the bill by April 11, aides said.

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Local Businesses Feeling The Impact Of War

With submarines deployed, eateries and stores around Groton base are seeing fewer customers

By GLADYS ALCEDO
Day Staff Writer

Groton — Staff at Golden Gate Pizza, just down the road from the Naval Submarine Base, moved briskly behind the counter Monday, stocking supplies and tidying up.

One would have thought they were getting ready for the dinner hour or restoring order after the lunchtime rush. But that's not the case these days.

The pizza house — and the adjoining Golden Gate Café Lounge and Family Restaurant — on Route 12, is among several local businesses that have ex-

perienced a sharp drop in business since the deployment of many of the sailors they used to serve.

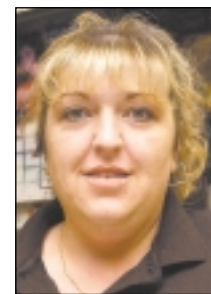
Maria Papatthasiou, co-owner of the Golden Gate pizza and lounge, said her luncheon business Monday consisted of five tables, less than half the capacity of the family-run establishment. Last Friday, the lounge, which usually attracts 75 to 100 people a night, drew only 25.

"It was the worst Friday night I've

ever seen," said Papatthasiou, who, along with her brother, took over the 23-year-old business from their father and uncle two years ago. "It has hurt us a little bit."

She estimated that her business is 95 percent dependent on the sailors and civilians stationed at the base. Unfortunately, she said, fewer civilians are coming out for lunch, too. Increased security measures and the potential for

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'It has hurt us a little bit.'

Maria Papatthasiou, co-owner of Golden Gate

INSIDE

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein appeared on state-run television Monday, exhorting his people to defeat "the aggressors and occupiers" in an effort by the Baghdad government to show that it remains firmly in power five days into a U.S. invasion. A4

Iraqi television shows two men said to have been the U.S. crew of an Apache helicopter forced down during heavy fighting in central Iraq. The airmen are the second set of POWs displayed by the Iraqis in as many days. A4

Sgt. Asan Akbar, who learned about Islam at an early age, took his faith with him to Kuwait with the 326th Engineer Battalion. He is now suspected of a grenade attack on a brigade command center that killed one soldier and injured 15 others. A4

Sailors on surface ships can call home on holidays and birthdays. But submariners are likely to be in areas where they can't even send an e-mail, so it helps to have things that remind them of family members who will have to celebrate without them. A5

In the Mahmoods' Pakistani-American household in Waterford, whether the U.S. should be at war with Iraq is an open question. On Sunday, the five members of the family shared different hopes and misgivings about America's war effort. A8

INSIDE TODAY

NEWS

Massacre In Kashmir
Suspected Islamic militants drag 24 Hindus from their homes and shoot them to death in a remote village in Indian-controlled Kashmir. A2



CEO Faces Fraud Charges
U.S. Technologies CEO C. Gregory Earls is charged with defrauding investors of \$15 million in schemes labeled as "a naked theft." E1

WEATHER

Some Sun, Seasonable
Today, partly sunny and mild. High about 53. Wednesday, mostly cloudy with scattered showers. High around 52. D8

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